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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECRET

COUNTRY Poland

REPORT NO.

25X1

SUBJECT Graduation of the First Class from
the Feliks Dzierzynski Academy

DATE DISTR.

13 November 1953

NO. OF PAGES

2

DATE OF INFO.

REQUIREMENT NO.

25X1

PLACE ACQUIRED

REFERENCES

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
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1. The Feliks Dzierzynski Academy for the Polish Army's political officers (Akademia Wojskowo-Polityczna) in Warsaw was founded in 1951. According to plan, its courses were to last three years, but the time has been reduced to two years, at least for the first classes. The first graduation took place, therefore, on 1 September 1953 for the 73 students of the first class.
2. Next year's class numbers, at present, 127 students who will probably take their final examinations in September 1954. Students in the new class, which was to start at the end of September 1953, have been selected and have received their orders.
3. After leaving the academy, the former students are assigned to several months' probationary duty in lower political officer positions in various regiments. Those who make a success of this probationary duty are considered for assignment as political officers to regimental and higher staffs.
4. At the formal graduation which terminated the first class' studies at the academy, the introductory speech was made by the head of the academy, Colonel (fnu) Stan-kiewicz. In the speech, the shortening of the length of the course was explained as being due to "the urgent necessity for political education of the Polish People's Army."
5. The following political and military personalities took part in the concluding ceremonies:
 - a. Brigadier General Kazimierz Witaszewski, the army's chief politruk and the academy's immediate superior.
 - b. Army General Stanislaw Poplawski, Vice Minister of National Defense and inspector for the army's training program; he is a Soviet-trained Pole, and a Soviet officer who returned to Poland with the Soviet Army in 1944.

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- c. Brigadier General Piotr Jaroszewicz, a "political general" who is a member of the state planning commission.
- d. Vice Prime Minister Wladyslaw Dworakowski, superintendent of the Ministry of Justice and of concentration camps.

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